REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are presently pending in the application. In this amendment, Claims 1 and 8 have been amended; and Claims 14-21 have been added. Claims 2-7 and 9-13 remain unamended. In accordance with the new rules, a clean version of the claims is set forth above, and a red-lined version of the claim is attached in the Appendix.

Claims 14-21 have been added. Claims 14 and 15 provide that the surface of the article to which the flocking is applied is contoured and flat, respectively. Support for the contoured and flat surfaces of the article is found in the last paragraph of page 7 of the specification. This amendment thus does not add new matter to the application.

In the specification, at page 6, it is noted that a plastic, such as a thermosetting polymer (i.e., polyester) can be used instead of the adhesive to secure the transfer to the article. Where the adhesive is a glue like substance, the thermosetting polymer cross-links with the material of the article to secure the transfer to the article. Independent Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to use the more generic term "film" in place of "adhesive binder". Claims 16-21 have been added to provide in one instance that the "film" is the adhesive binder (Claims 16 and 19) and in the other instance, the "film" is a plastic film (Claims 17-18 and 20-21). These claims do not add new matter to the application.

Entry of the amendment prior to examination of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Paul M. Denk
Registration No. 22598
763 South New Ballas Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63141
Tel: (314) 872-8136

Applicant:	Brown Abrams	**Examiner**	
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APPENDIX
VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS
TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Amended)** A method of decorating a molded article comprising:

providing a transfer having a flocking layer, a release sheet on one side of the flocking and [a layer of binder adhesive] a film on an opposite side of the flocking to adhere the transfer to the molded article;

securing the release sheet to an interior wall of a mold in which the article is made; and

molding the part such that resin contacts the layer of binder adhesive;

cooling the mold;

ejecting the part; and

removing the release sheet from the transfer.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is affixed to the mold base with an adhesive.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is affixed to the mold by vacuum.

4. The method of claim 1 including a step of preventing the resin from entering interstitial spaces between the flocking.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the preventing step includes forming a dam around the perimeter of the transfer.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the dam is formed by placing a barrier in the mold, the transfer being positioned within the barrier.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the dam is part of the transfer, the dam comprising a built up section of binder adhesive around the periphery of the transfer.

8. A method of decorating a molded article comprising:

coating a release sheet with a release adhesive;

flocking flock into said release adhesive by imbedding a first end of said flock into the release adhesive to result in at least one pattern of flock arranged to form a predetermined design adhered to said release sheet;

applying a film to an opposite side of the flocking;

forming a barrier around the periphery of said flock;

affixing said release sheet to the interior surface of a mold; and

molding an article over said [adhesive binder and thereby] film in said mold; said film permanently bonding said flock to said article.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of forming said barrier comprises applying a binder adhesive to said flock; said binder adhesive being built up around the periphery of said flock.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of forming said barrier comprises providing a dam on the surface of the mold, the transfer being applied to the mold within the dam.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of molding the article comprises injecting molten resin into the mold.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the resin is initially injected at a first pressure, the first pressure being sufficiently low to prevent dislodgment of the transfer from the mold wall; and then providing a second injection of the resin at a second higher pressure.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the injected resin has a lower melting point than the release adhesive.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

14. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of molding said article over said adhesive binder comprising molding a surface of said article over said adhesive binder; said surface being a contoured surface.

15. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of molding said article over said adhesive binder comprising molding a surface of said article over said adhesive binder; said surface being a generally flat surface.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the film is a layer of binder adhesive.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein the film is a plastic film.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the plastic film is a thermosetting polymer.

19. The method of claim 8 wherein said film is a binder adhesive which adhesively holds said transfer to said article.

20. The method of claim 8 wherein said film is a plastic film; said plastic film cross-linking with the molded article to hold said transfer to said article.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein said plastic film is a thermosetting polymer.